(d) One of the Plan Schemes of the Ministry encourages the concept of backward linkages ensuring remunerative prices to farmers by creating direct linkages between farmers and the processors. The processing companies would be required to enter into a contract with a minimum of 25 farmers to be eligible to get incentive in the forms of grant limited to 5% of the total purchases made by processors in a given year subject to the maximum upto Rs. 10 lakhs per year.

Besides as farmers supply the raw materials required by food processors for converting them into value added products, the growth in processed food sector benefits them either directly or indirectly.

Statement

Annual Survey of Industries

No. of Units and gross output in Industry groiup 20-21 (Manufacturing of food products) of Maharashtra

ASI Years	Number of Units	Gross Output (Rs. lakh)
1990-91	1517	622492
1991-92	1497	733011
1992-93	1666	863493
1993-94	1849	936494
1994-95	1778	1188338

Schemes Sponsored by IREDA

955. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) has evolved a scheme of financing 85 percent of the project cost and 90 percent of equipment cost at low rate of interest for wind mill, solar energy, bio-gas etc;

(b) the details of the scheme;

(c) whether Government propose to publicize this scheme in regional languages; and

(d) whether the schemes is proposed to be implemented through the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) has broadly, been financing schemes covering Project Financing, Equipment Financing and Financing relating to Manufacturing of Equipment/Facilities. The percentage upto which IREDA finances varies from sector to sector. The financing upto 80% to 90% of the project cost is done in the ares of Wind Mill Pumping System, Solar Energy and Biogas at interest rates which range between 0% in case of Solar Cookers and 16% in case of Small Hydro, Biomass Cogeneration and Biomethanation of industrial effluents.

(c) IREDA's Promotional brochures are available in Hindi and in English. IREDA's Business Development Associates in respective state are allowed to get the brochures printed in regional languages costs of which are reimbursed by IREDA. IREDA's advertisements are also published in regional languages through regional newspapers. In addition, Video films are produced by IREDA in regional languages.

(d) No, Sir. Schemes of IREDA are being implemented predominantly through Private sector and other eligible borrowers such as Non-Governmental Organisations, Public Sector Undertakings, Co-operative Societies etc.

उत्तर प्रदेश के पर्वतीय क्षेत्रों में सौर ऊर्जा संयंत्र

956. **श्री मनोहर कान्त ध्यानी:** क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार उत्तर प्रदेश के पर्वतीय क्षेत्र के बारह जिलों में सौर ऊर्जा संयंत्र स्थापित करने का विचार रखती है;

24 MAY 1998